0612-A-03 I 49.113:L 72

U S Fish & Wildlife Service

Little Pend Oreille National Wildlife Refuge

Environmental Assessment for the Proposed Kaniksu Unit Addition

Stevens County, Washington

2002-005895/HF C

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
for the
PROPOSED KANIKSU UNIT ADDITION
to the
LITTLE PEND OREILLE NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

April 2000

Prepared by
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
911 NE 11th Avenue
Portland, Oregon 97232-4181

I

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Chapter 1. Purpose and Need

1.1 Introduction 1
1.2 Background 1
1.3 Need for Action 3
1.4 Establishing and Acquisition Authorities 3
1.5 Purpose of Protecting the Kaniksu Unit 3

Chapter 2. Proposed Action and Alternatives

2.1 Proposal and Alternatives 4

Chapter 3. Affected Environment and Environmental Consequences

3.1 Major Wildlife Values

3.1.1 Description of Major Wildlife Values 4
3.1.2 Effects on Major Wildlife Values 5

3.2 Threatened and Endangered Species

3.2.1 Description of Threatened and Endangered Species 5
3.2.2 Effect on Threatened and Endangered Species 5

3.3 Fishery Resources

3.3.1 Description of Fishery Resources 5
3.3.2 Effect on Fishery Resources 6

3.4 Aquatic and Terrestrial Ecosystems

3.4.1 Description of Aquatic and Terrestrial Ecosystems 6
3.4.2 Effects on Aquatic and Terrestrial Ecosystems 6

3.5 Water Quality

3.5.1 Description of Water Quality 7
3.5.2 Effects on Water Quality 7

3.6 Social and Economic Setting

3.6.1 Description of Demographic, Social and Economic Setting 7
3.6.2 Effects on Demographic, Social and Economic Setting 8

3.7 Wildlife-Dependent Recreation

3.7.1 Description of Wildlife-Dependent Recreation 9
3.7.2 Effects on Wildlife-Dependent Recreation 9

Chapter 4. Consultation and Coordination with Others

4.1 Agency Coordination and Public Involvement 10
4.2 Environmental Review and Coordination 10
4.3 Other Federal Laws, Regulations, and Executive Orders 10
4.4 Environmental Justice 11
4.5 Planning Team 11
4.6 Distribution and Availability 11

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
for the
Proposed Kaniksu Unit Addition
to the
Little Pend Oreille National Wildlife Refuge

Chapter 1. PURPOSE AND NEED FOR ACTION

1.1. Introduction

The Service proposes to acquire a 746-acre addition to Little Pend Oreille National Wildlife Refuge (Refuge). The Refuge is located in Stevens and Pend Oreille counties in Washington State. The addition is known as the Kaniksu Unit, Pearce Ranch, or Pinto Ridge. The Kaniksu Unit includes interspersed wet meadows, perennial streams, floodplain riparian habitat, and forested wetlands important to native fish, wildlife, and plants. It is located approximately 15 miles south of the Refuge, in Stevens County, Washington (see Figure 1).

1.2 Background

The 40,198-acre Refuge contains the only mixed-conifer montane forest in the National Wildlife Refuge System. Ranging from low-elevation flood plains at 1,800 feet, the Refuge extends to 5,600-foot peaks, encompassing a complete set of northeast Washington's six major forest vegetation zones. These diverse forests, streams, and wetlands are used seasonally by bald eagles and numerous nesting, foraging, and migrating birds and a diverse array of mammals, reptiles, and amphibians.

The old growth ponderosa pine on the proposed Kaniksu Unit has been logged and in some places clear cut, particularly along riparian corridors. Wetlands were drained and streams channelized and diverted for farming and ranching. Natural fire was suppressed and overgrazing lead to exotic plant species invasions. Land management focused on commodity production and game species.

There has already been some restoration activity by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) through their Wetland Reserve Program (WRP). The Service will partner with NRCS in determining future restoration and other management needs. The Service is currently developing a Comprehensive Conservation Plan (CCP) for managing the Refuge.

If the Kaniksu Unit were acquired as an addition to the Refuge, then an additional CCP would be developed to address management of the Kaniksu lands. The goals for the Refuge are as follows:

Goal 1: Conserve, enhance, and restore native forest, riparian, in-stream, and wetland habitats and their associated fish, wildlife, and plants, representative of the native biological diversity of northeastern Washington.

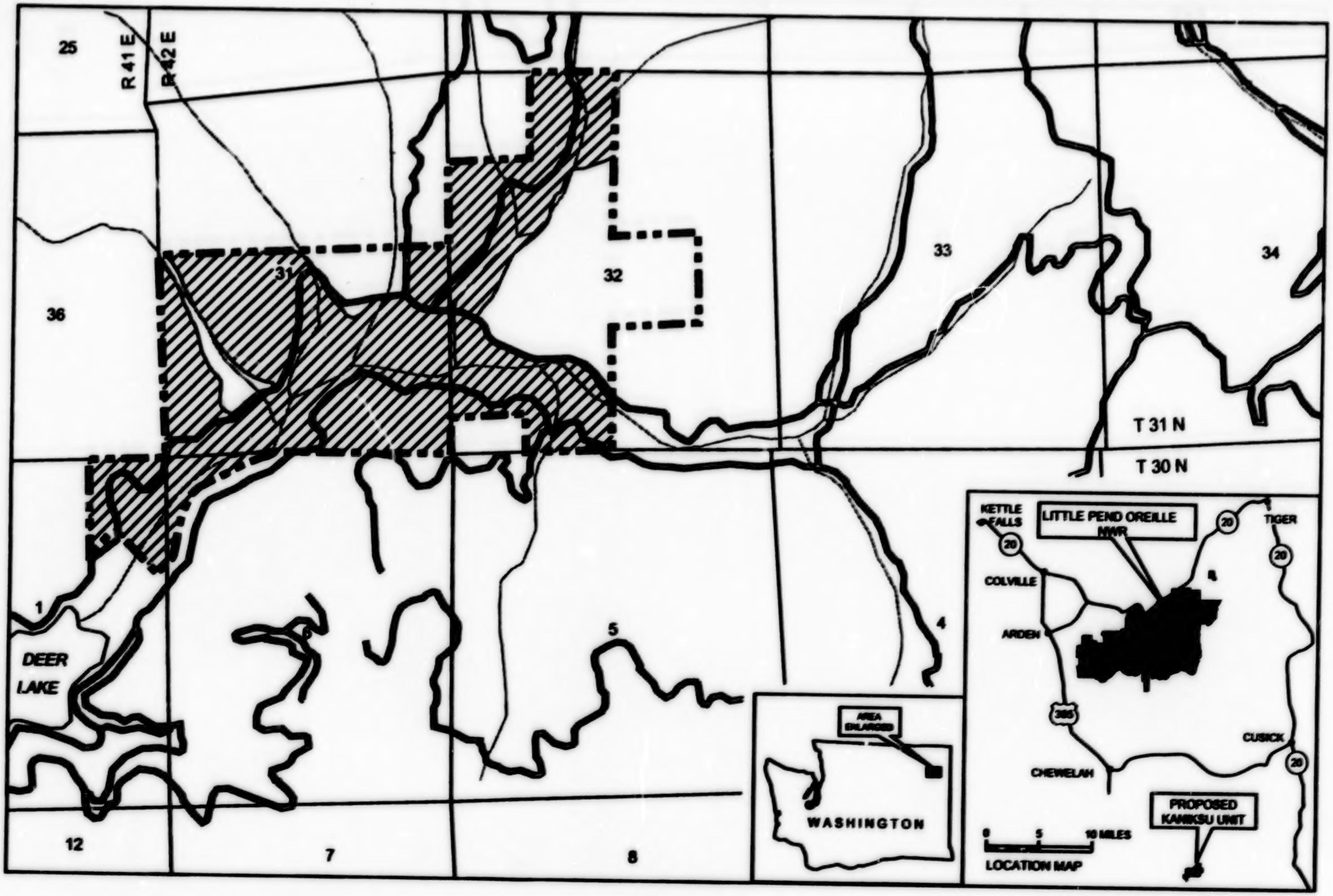

Figure 1

LITTLE PEND OREILLE NWR

PROPOSED KANIKSU UNIT

N

JANUARY 2000

0 1,000 2,000 3,000 FEET

0 400 800 METERS

▭ Proposed Kaniksu Unit (746 Acres)

▨ Wetland Reserve Easements (556 Acres)

Goal 2: Monitor, protect, and recover special status plants and animals and species of management interest.

Goal 3: Provide opportunities for wildlife-dependent recreation and education to enhance public appreciation, understanding, and enjoyment of Refuge wildlife, fish, their habitats, and cultural history.

1.3 Need for Action

The Service identified the need to protect the interspersed wet meadows, perennial streams, floodplain riparian habitat, and forested wetlands important to the associated native fish, wildlife, and plants of the Kaniksu Unit. The Kaniksu Unit has been degraded and is vulnerable to grazing, logging, farming, or development if the area remains in private ownership. If the Kaniksu Unit were added to the Refuge, the Service would ensure that the area would be protected from further degradation.

1.4 Purpose of Protecting the Kaniksu Unit

The Executive Order which established the Refuge, provides the purpose for the Kaniksu Unit "as a refuge and breeding ground for migratory birds and other wildlife."

The addition would also support the following conservation efforts.

- Recovery of federally listed threatened and endangered species.
- The goals and objectives of the Intermountain West Joint Venture Strategic Plan under the North American Waterfowl Management Plan.
- The goals and objectives of the Columbia River Basin Ecoregion Plan.
- The goals and objectives of the Northwest Power Planning Council's Fish and Wildlife Program (Council's Fish and Wildlife Program).

1.5 Establishing and Acquisition Authorities

Acquisition of the Kaniksu Unit is authorized by the Pacific Northwest Electric Power Planning and Conservation Act (P.L. 96501 - December 5, 1980), as amended. Lands acquired will be funded through the Council's Fish and Wildlife Program using Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) mitigation monies to offset fish and wildlife habitat losses incurred as a result of the Grand Coulee Dam construction and inundation. Four species were selected as indicators of habitat losses: the black-capped chickadee, white-tailed deer, ruffed grouse, and mallard. The Service will develop a management and monitoring plan to ensure restoration of habitat functions over time.

The perpetual wetland easement portion of the Kaniksu Unit addition will be subject to the laws and regulations governing the Wetland Reserve Program (16 U.S.C. §3837; 7C.F.R. §1467). The Refuge was established on May 2, 1939 by Executive Order 8104. Additional lands were purchased in later years through the Migratory Bird Conservation Act (16 U.S.C. 715-715d).

Chapter 2. PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES

2.1 Proposal and Alternatives

Two alternatives were considered for protection of the Kaniksu wildlife habitat:

No action. The Kaniksu property would not be added to the National Wildlife Refuge System and the upland component would remain in private ownership and could be grazed, logged, farmed, or developed. The wetland 556 acres under the WRP would remain protected.

Proposed Action. The Service would add the Kaniksu Unit to the Little Pend Oreille National Wildlife Refuge. The upland component would be protected and NRCS would transfer management responsibilities to the Service for the WRP easement acres.

Chapter 3. AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

3.1 MAJOR WILDLIFE VALUES

3.1.1 Description of Major Wildlife Values

Service staff made incidental wildlife observations within the Kaniksu Unit throughout spring, summer, and fall of 1998. Waterfowl use was limited because of the effectiveness of the drainage system on the pastures, grazing livestock, and the lack of nesting cover. Waterfowl use of the pastures was highest during the spring and fall migrations. Species observed using the area include Canada goose *(Branta canadensis)*, mallard *(Anas platyrynchos)*, American wigeon *(A. americans)*, northern pintail (*A. acuta*), and green-winged teal *(A. crecca)*. Common loons migrate though, but do not nest at the study area. Wetland restoration of the lower pastures could provide suitable habitat for nesting loons, and the other species observed.

A great diversity of water birds and shorebirds use the study area and adjacent Deer Lake. Water birds use the fringe wetlands of Deer Lake to nest, rest, and forage. Shorebird use of the wet meadows within the study area is limited due to habitat loss from the drainage systems and livestock grazing. Greater yellowlegs *(Tringa melanoleuca)*, lesser yellowlegs *(T. flavipes)*, spotted sandpiper (*Actitis maculuria*), and common snipe *(Gallinago gallinago)* habitats may be enhanced by wetland restoration. The study area also supports several waterbirds such as common loon (*Gavia immer*), blacks tern (*Chlidonias niger*), and red-necked grebe (*Podiceps grisegena*). Wading bird use is currently limited to great blue herons (*Ardea herodias)*, which may nest nearby. Restoration of the wetlands, riparian habitat, and mixed forest would increase avian migration, foraging, breeding, and nesting opportunities at the study area.

The habitats that are present suggest that small mammal, reptile, and amphibian populations are diverse and abundant. Neotropical migratory birds, including bobolinks, flycatchers, warblers, and thrushes, are found here as well. In addition, bald eagle, osprey, and red-tailed hawks nest and forage within or next to the study area. Large mammals using the area include black bear (*Ursus americanus*), cougar (*Felis concolor*), white-tailed deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*), Rocky Mountain elk *(Cervus canadensis)*, moose (*Alces alces*), beaver (*Castor canadensis)*, and raccoon *(Procyon lotor)*.

3.1.2 Effects on Major Wildlife Values

The extension of an approved refuge acquisition boundary would protect major wildlife habitats from further disturbance and development. The effects would be an increase in native biodiversity, improved ecosystem functioning, and maintenance or improvement of wildlife habitat values.

The no-action alternative would be expected to result in timber harvest on the non-easement upland acres. The effect would be a loss of terrestrial forested habitat, degradation and loss of some riparian habitat, a decrease in native plants, wildlife and biodiversity, and an increase in invasive exotic plants.

3.2 THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES

3.2.1 Description of Threatened and Endangered Species

Four federally listed species are found at or near the Kaniksu Unit. Endangered gray wolves (*Canis lupus*) have been observed in northeastern Washington and grizzly bears (*Ursus arctos*) have been recently observed in the Deer Lake vicinity, but not at the Kaniksu Unit. The study area may also have two threatened wetland-dependent plants occurring at the site, the Ute ladies' tresses (*Spiranthes diluvialis*) and water howellia (*Howellia aquatilis*). Surveys for the water howellia and Ute ladies' tresses will be conducted from May to June and July to September 2000, respectively.

3.2.2 Effect on Threatened and Endangered Species

Acquisition and restoration of the wetlands would enhance the habitat characteristics required for the listed plant species, and will increase the forage and prey base for both gray wolf and grizzly bear, but these effects are minimal and no effect from the proposed project is expected. The no-action alternative would be expected to cause a loss of upland forest due to harvest practices, and over time would contribute to loss of habitat for the bear and wolf by decreasing the prey base.

3.3 FISHERY RESOURCES

3.3.1 Description of Fishery Resources

Native and non-native salmonids (*i.e.*, west slope cutthroat trout, rainbow trout, and brook trout) use the streams found within the study area. We have not conducted surveys for fish species diversity and abundance but have observed several fish species throughout 1998. The Service attributes the limited fish populations to the loss of spawning habitat and reduced water quality. Information was not available on other aquatic organisms.

3.3.2 Effect on Fishery Resources

The proposed action would improve native fish populations by protecting forested areas from timber harvest. Habitat restoration and subsequent management would improve the aquatic ecosystem and increase populations of native fish and aquatic organisms.

The no-action alternative would be expected to result in timber harvest on the non-easement uplands. The effect would be a loss of terrestrial forested habitat, degradation and loss of aquatic habitat, and a decrease in native fish and aquatic organisms.

3.4 AQUATIC AND TERRESTRIAL ECOSYSTEMS

3.4.1 Description of Aquatic and Terrestrial Ecosystems

Approximately 192 acres (or 25.7 percent) of the Kaniksu Unit contains ditched wet meadows managed for cattle grazing and hay production. The vegetation found in the drier portions of the meadows are composed of mixed pasture grasses, while the lower meadows also have pasture grasses, but are naturally supplanted by wetland plant species such as Baltic rush *(Juncus balticus)*, manna grass (*(Glyceria striata*), and reed canary grass *(Phalaris arundinacea)*. Most, if not all, of the 192 acres of pasture could be restored to mixed forest, riparian habitat, and wetlands by plugging the lateral drainage ditches and allowing the natural plant community succession to proceed. Planting endemic tree, shrub, and grass species would accelerate the restoration of the plant communities once found at the study site.

As the inlet to Deer Lake, the site represents an important piece of the subwatershed and floodplain. Approximately 3.25 miles of perennial streams, including 11 stream drainages, converge on the study area. All the streams have been adversely affected by culverts, removal of all endemic woody vegetation, channelization, and side-casting of spoil material. Breaching the dredge material placed along the banks could accomplish restoration of these aquatic systems and allow the stream to develop a natural meander through the meadow. Planting woody vegetation in the channel migration zone would supplement this. The other smaller ephemeral streams have also been channelized to various degrees and could be restored in the same manner.

The mixed-conifer forest component of the proposed acquisition is dominated by ponderosa pine *(Pinus ponderosa)*, Douglas fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*), and grand fir (*Abies grandis*). This 146-acre area is found near the northeast edge of the study area. Most of the dry forest types in the region, particularly the ponderosa pine type, have been converted to other land cover and are privately owned. The presence of grand fir in this system is an indicator of fire suppression.

3.4.2 Effects to Aquatic and Terrestrial Ecosystems

The extension of an approved refuge acquisition boundary would protect the Kaniksu Unit ecosystems from further disturbance and development. The effects would be an increase in native biodiversity, and maintenance or improvement of habitat values for the federally listed threatened and endangered species, and native fish, wildlife, and plants. The proposed action would prevent further degradation of the site from land uses and land management practices such as timber harvest, livestock grazing, and fire suppression.

The no-action alternative could result in timber harvest of the uplands. The effect would likely be a loss of terrestrial forested habitat, degradation and loss of aquatic habitat, a decrease in native plants, wildlife, fish, biological diversity, and an increase in invasive exotic plants.

3.5 WATER QUALITY

3.5.1 Description of Water Quality

Eastern Washington University conducted a Water Quality Assessment Study of Deer Lake. The University and the Washington Department of Ecology conducted the water quality assessment when residents near the Lake became concerned about the Lake's water quality. Deer Lake has high levels of phosphorus. The project focused on whether natural or cultural influences or both were ultimately responsible for the decline in water quality, if there was in fact a documented decline in water quality. The study identified that the proposed acquisition site and surrounding area were significant sources of the Deer Lake nutrient load. The report suggested, if the landowner of the proposed Unit applied Best Management Practices (BMPs) for livestock grazing, the phosphorus concentrations in the Lake would significantly decline. In addition to using BMPs, computer modeling also suggested that better timber harvesting practices and a sewer system would also help improve the water quality of Deer Lake.

Since Eastern Washington University issued the report, the residents around the Lake have installed a sewage treatment plant and purchased approximately 40 acres of wetland fringe habitat between Deer Lake and the proposed acquisition site.

3.5.2 Effect on Water Quality

Under the proposed action, the Service would protect the terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems, which would improve the water quality. Forest management practices would focus on improving fish and wildlife habitat.

The no-action alternative would be expected to result in timber harvest on the uplands. The effect would be a loss of forest cover which would lead to erosion, sedimentation, and subsequent degradation of water quality.

3.6 SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC SETTING

3.6.1 Description of Demographic, Social, and Economic Setting

The proposed Kaniksu Unit is located 25 miles east of the Idaho border, primarily in Stevens County. The total land area of Stevens County is 2,481.2 square miles. The County's population has grown more than 22 percent in the past decade, as shown in Table 1. Overall, population density is low; 85 percent of the population lives in rural areas and 15 percent in small towns.

Table 1 Population Trends, Stevens County, Idaho

Date	Total Population	Persons per Square Mile
1998	37,600 (up 1% from 1997)	15.2
1997	37,400 (up 21% from 1990	15
1999	30,948	12.5

The economy of Stevens County is diversified. The top five industries are manufacturing, services, governmental activities, retail, and transportation. The unemployment rate average for 1996 to 1998 was 9.8 percent, which placed Stevens County in the Distressed Areas program for Washington. The per capita income of Stevens County in 1997 was $16,071, which was $9,206 below the Washington State average. Counties with incomes of less than 80 percent of the State average, in this case 63 percent, are defined as low income. In most of the County, 12 to 25 percent of the people live with incomes below the poverty level, with large, scattered pockets where 25 to 50 percent live in poverty. Approximately 89 percent of the Stevens County population in 1990 was white, with the other 11 percent consisting of Hispanic (2.5 percent), Native American (6 percent), and Asian and Pacific Islander (1.3 percent).

3.6.2 Effects on Demographic, Social, and Economic Setting

The Service expects few if any effects from the proposed action to the demographic and social setting. The proposed Refuge would provide a location for wildlife-dependent recreation.

Under the proposed action, Service ownership would remove 746 acres from the tax roles of Stevens County. Although the Federal government does not pay property taxes on its own land, several factors offset the potential hardship for local governments from loss of property tax revenue. First, refuge lands and waters demand little in the way of expensive infrastructure or services. Second, when the Service acquires private land in fee, Congress allocates payments to counties under the Refuge Revenue Sharing Act to partially compensate for the loss of property taxes. Third, refuge status sometimes results in larger numbers of visitors whereby local governments and businesses would benefit from increased revenues and lodging taxes. Visitation at the Kaniksu Unit is expected to increase minimally. The effect of the proposed action on the economies of Stevens County would not be significant.

Under the no-action alternative, the site would remain inaccessible to the public and the landowner would continue to pay property taxes.

Executive Order 12898 Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations, signed by President Clinton on February 11, 1994, in part directs Federal agencies to:

- Conduct their programs, policies, and activities that substantially affect human health or the environment in ways that ensure that minority and low-income population are not discriminated against or excluded from participating in and benefitting from those programs, policies, and activities; and

- Ensure NEPA documents (i.e., Environmental Impact Statements, Environmental Assessments, and Categorical Exclusions) fully analyze environmental effects on minority and low-income communities, including human health, social, and economic effects.

Although Stevens County is a low-income county, neither the proposed action nor the No-Action alternative would significantly affect low-income residents. The proposed action would provide a modest amount of low cost wildlife-dependent recreation opportunities to low-income residents. The Service coordinated with three Tribal governments in the area, none of whom objected.

3.7 WILDLIFE-DEPENDENT RECREATION

3.7.1 Description of Wildlife-Dependent Recreation

Under the Service's proposed action, the Service would consider compatible hunting opportunities consistent with the Northwest Power Planning Council's Fish and Wildlife Program and Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife's (WDFW) regulations. The relatively small size of the property and limited vehicular access would limit hunting opportunities on the Kaniksu Unit. If hunting is approved it would likely occur between October and November for deer, turkey, and grouse. The Service would consider establishing a waterfowl season following development of a restoration and monitoring plan and collection of additional data. Hunting is an existing use, the current landowner allowing some access to the property for hunting purposes. The Service would broaden the hunting opportunity to the public.

The Service's proposed action also includes consideration of wildlife observation and photography and environmental education and interpretation. The Service would work with Stevens County to widen the roads to construct turn outs for wildlife viewing opportunities where people can safely park vehicles and not block traffic. The Service expects that wildlife would become more abundant in response to restoration activities. With the resulting increase in viewing opportunities, the Service would evaluate the possibility of constructing pedestrian access to the eastern portion of the Unit.

3.7.2 Effects of Wildlife-Dependent Recreation

The proposed action to add the Kaniksu Unit to the Refuge could afford the public several hunting, wildlife observation and photography, and environmental education and interpretation opportunities.

Harvest of deer, turkey, and grouse is likely to be incidental and is not expected to have a major effect on populations. The WDFW regulates hunting to ensure that harvest does not reduce populations to unsustainable levels. Hunting may be either compensatory or additive to natural mortality. No known sensitive wildlife species use this upland habitat. The more sensitive wildlife species are in wetland habitats and are most vulnerable to disturbance during spring and summer when no hunting will be occurring.

The effects of wildlife observation and photography and environmental education and interpretation are expected to be minor. For the time being, wildlife observation would be restricted to the roadsides. Wetland habitats would be posted as closed. The southern access road would be gated, and overall, the Service would limit and monitor vehicular access on the Kaniksu property.

The Service is working with NRCS to develop a restoration and monitoring plan. Potential impacts of wildlife-dependent recreation to sensitive species will be included in the monitoring of Kaniksu Unit fish, wildlife, and plants.

Under the no action alternative, it would be unlikely that wildlife-dependent recreational opportunities would be as available to the public under private ownership. It would be reasonable to assume that the property owner would permit limited walk-in access for camping, hunting, and wildlife observation uses.

Chapter 4. CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION WITH OTHERS

4.1 Agency Coordination and Public Involvement

The Service coordinated with the NRCS, the Colville, Kalispel, and Spokane Tribes, the State of Washington, and the landowners.

The Comprehensive Conservation Plan will be prepared with the involvement of representatives from the BPA, NRCS, WDFW, affected tribes, community groups, and interested citizens. The Service will invite and encourage public participation through public meetings and project planning updates.

4.2 Environmental Review

As a Federal agency, the Service must comply with provision of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). An environmental assessment is required under the NEPA to evaluate reasonable alternatives that will meet stated objectives and assess the possible impacts to the human environment. The environmental assessment serves as the basis for determining whether or not implementation of the proposed action would constitute a major Federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment.

4.3 Other Federal Laws, Regulations, and Executive Orders

In undertaking the proposed action, the Service would comply with the following Federal Laws, Executive orders, and legislative acts: Floodplain Management (Executive Order 11988); Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs (Executive Order 12372); Protection of Historical, Archaeological, and Scientific Properties (Executive Order 11593); Protection of Wetlands (Executive Order 11990); Management and General Public Use of the National Wildlife Refuge System (Executive Order 12996); Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations (Executive Order 12898); Hazardous Substances Determinations (Secretarial Order 3127); Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended; Refuge Recreation Act, as amended; National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966, as amended; National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended.

4.4 Environmental Justice

The establishment and management of a national wildlife refuge would not cause any disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental impacts to minority populations, or Indian Tribes.

The proposed Refuge would increase low cost opportunities for families to view wildlife without driving long distances, and neighborhood schools would have an additional environmental education resource close at hand. The Refuge would allow area youth to experience wildlife as part of their community and their growing-up experience.

4.5 Planning Team

Jeff B. Combs, Fish and Wildlife Biologist, Upper Columbia River Basin Field Office, Spokane, Washington.

Lisa Langelier, Refuge Manager, Little Pend Oreille National Wildlife Refuge, Colville, Washington.

Maureen Smith, Columbia River Basin Fish and wildlife Mitigation Coordinator, Columbia River Fisheries Program Office, Vancouver, Washington.

Amy Wing, Habitat Protection Planner, Division of Refuge Planning, Portland, Oregon.

4.6 Distribution and Availability

The Environmental Assessment will be sent to various agencies, organizations, community groups, and individuals for review and comment (see Appendix A).

APPENDIX A

Distribution list for the *Environmental Assessment for the proposed Kaniksu Unit Addition to the Little Pend Oreille National Wildlife Refuge, Stevens County, Washington*:

John Andrews
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

Bruce Basset
Deer Lake Property Owners Association

Colleen Cawston, Chairwoman
Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation

Tony Delgado
Stevens County Federal Land Advisory Commission
Steven County, Washington

Ray Entz
Kalispel Tribe
Fish and Wildlife Department

Jim Gleaton
Natural Resources Conservation Service

Steve Judd
Colville Tribe Fish and Game Department

B.J. Keiffer
Spokane Tribe of Indians
Natural Resources Department

Glen Nenema, Chairman
Kalispel Tribe of Indians

Dick Rivers
Spokane Audubon

Shelly Short
Congressman Nethercutt
District Office

Steve Tveit
Boise Cascade Corporation

Bruce Wynne, Chairman
Business Council
Spokane Tribe of Indians

Fran Besserman, County Commissioner
Stevens County

Washington Department of Ecology

Kaniksu Ranch Members

Loon Lake Loon Association

Bonneville Power Administration

END

04-8-02